Enforcement of Power Regulations by NTPC on Defaulting SEBs.

277. SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE: SHRI NILOTPAL BASU:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the secretary, Ministry of Power had held a meeting on 26th June, 1996 where an agreed methodology was formulated for putting power regulations by NTPC on defaulting SEBs;

(b) if so, the outlines of the procedure decided in the meeting;

(c) whether the same methodology was adopted before snapping power supply to West Bengal State Electricity Board and Damodar Valley Corporation; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. In the meeting taken by Secretary, Ministry of Power on 26.6.1996 it was decided that as Regional Load Despatch Centres (RLDCs) act as only as operators, regulation of power supply to any state would be under instructions from the concerned Regional Electricity Boards (REBs) keeping grid security in view. REBs would be advised by the Central Electricity Authority to regulate power on receipt of notice from NTPC due to non-payment of dues.

(c) and (d) NTPC resorted to regulation of power supply from Farakka Super Thermal Power Station after giving a reasonable time to State Electricity Boards (SEBs) of the Eastern Region for payment of dues in a phased manner. Power supply from Farakka STPS was discontinued from midnight of l0th/llth October, 1998 due to the failure on the part of West Bengal SEB and Damodar Valley Corporation to make arrangements for the liquidation of dues in a phased manner.

Appointment of Member on the Board of Calcutta Port Trust

278. PROF. A. LAKSHMISAGAR: SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a recently appointed member on the Board of Calcutta Port Trust is in possession of illegally occupied land of the Calcutta Port Trust and has a criminal record;

(b) if so, whether Government have made any inquiry into the circumstances leading to his appointment as a member of the Board;

(c) if so, what is the factual position; and

(d) the reaction of Government with regard thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN): (a) No, Sir. Calcutta Port Trust is not aware of any criminal record against them.

(b) to (d) Do not arise

Housing and Commercial Development on National Highways

279. SHRIMATI JAYAPRADA NAHATA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether housing and commercial development are proposed to be taken up simultaneously as part of highway projects;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the legal, financial and other concessions to be offered to the private investors in the road sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The proposal is at conceptual stage and hence no further details can be given at this stage.